

**Remarks**

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested. It should be noted that the applicant's representative has tried to contact the Examiner. However, it is the understanding of the applicant's representative that the Examiner will not be available until March 1, 2005. The intent of the applicant's representative was to discuss a mutually agreeable course of action with the Examiner prior to submission of this response. The timing the Examiner's return has made such discussion impossible. Accordingly, this amendment has been submitted with a best estimation of claim language that the Examiner will find agreeable.

It is explicitly requested that the Examiner contact the applicant's representative as soon as the Examiner receives this amendment. The applicant's representative is quite willing to conduct a telephone discussion with the Examiner if the current claim language is somehow not satisfactory to the Examiner.

Turning to the claim language, as presented within the present amendment, it should be seen that the claim language addresses all of the rejections set forth within the Office action. Specifically, the Examiner's concern with regard to the language regarding alignment of the shaft has been alleviated. More importantly, the claim has been amended to clearly distinguish from the cited prior art reference to Faher (U.S. Patent No. 6,260,278). The interpretation of the Faher patent within the Office action, as set forth at pages 4 and 5 should now be addressed by the amendments to the claim. Specifically, the fact that a user of the Faher device when located on an upper hill and cutting downward is now moot in view of the amendment.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Again, it is reiterated if there is some need to further adjust the claim language, the Examiner is explicitly invited to contact the applicant's representative

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so that work can be done to move the application for deport(??) and eventual allowance.

If there are any further fees resulting from this communication, or if no check is enclosed, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. 36246.

Respectfully submitted,  
PEARNE & GORDON LLP



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